

Michigan's Source Water Protection Program



Michigan Department of Environmental Quality – Water Bureau

Issue 8

December 2006



Source Water Protection Unit welcomes new staff

The Source Water Protection Unit (SWPU) would like to welcome Sue Grinwis and Debb Ostrander to the staff! Sue and Debb are joining us as education and outreach specialists with the Wellhead Protection (WHP) Program, and are looking forward to meeting with your community's Wellhead Protection Team! Both have been with the DEQ for over 10 years, most recently in the Manufactured Housing Program. Please join us in welcoming them to the WHP Program! Sue can be reached at (517) 241-1339, and Debb at (517) 241-1338.



Ira Township continues to work toward implementation of their SWIPP!

Ira Township's Source Water Protection team met again on Dec. 14th to continue their Surface Water Intake Protection Program (SWIPP) implementation. Progress has been made on their early warning detection system for the St. Clair River with many detection instruments in place. The team is also working hard to coordinate with outside partners to avoid duplicating efforts. They may possibly develop some certification programs. One that has been suggested is a Clean

Marina Designation. Another partnership with businesses may lead to design of a Corporate Good Citizen program. Ira Township should be commended for their foresight in their efforts to protect their citizens' drinking water. Many ideas developed by communities working on SWIPPs maybe transferable to your area. If your community is interested in pursuing a SWIPP, please contact Deb Bailey at (517) 335-3968.

Focus on Wellhead

The SWPU has been collecting wellhead protection case studies and focusing on exemplary wellhead activities in past newsletters. This quarter, the SWPU would like to highlight some exceptional work done by the City of Kalamazoo. The June 2006 newsletter focused on Kalamazoo's innovative movie theater ads. But, how effective have these ads been at increasing the community's awareness of drinking water issues?

A random survey of 2,000 Kalamazoo County residents indicated that 10% of those that responded had seen at least one of the eight movie animated ads. In addition, the number of visits to Kalamazoo's WHP website, <http://www.protectyourwater.net>, doubled during the first month the ads aired in the 10 theater complex. This is conclusive evidence that the outreach project is not only reaching the general public, but also initiating interest in drinking water issues. The ads can be viewed through the DEQ's Wellhead Protection website <http://www.michigan.gov/deqwhp> Click on "Wellhead Protection Outreach and Education". They are under the subtitle Multimedia.

The City of Lansing took Kalamazoo up on their offer to modify and use these innovative movie ads in their area theaters. We encourage you to join them! Please contact Bruce Camburn, General Sales Manager, Digital Talking Screen Media, bcamburn2002@hotmail.com or (616) 262-1989 if you are interested.

New Wellhead Communities

The SWPU would like to congratulate the newly approved WHP communities from Oct. 1 2005-Jan. 1 2006. Grand Valley Estates (Ada Township), Bear Lake, Benzonia, Blair Township, Breckenridge, Briley Township, Caspian, Chassell Township, Columbiaville, Elk Rapids, Ellsworth, Fenton, Fowler, Fowlerville, Gogebic Range Water Authority, Hastings, Iron River, Kalkaska, Kingsley, Lake Bella Vista, Lowell, Lyons, Marcellus, Mason, Montague, Muir, Norway, Olivet, Onsted, Otisville, Paw Paw, Pewamo, Suttons Bay, Three Rivers, and Wayland.

SWP Internet Links

Check out these links for more information regarding Source Water Protection.

EPA Source Water Protection

<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/protect.html>

For Coastal Zone Protection

<http://www.michigan.gov/deq> Click on **Water**, then **Great Lakes**, then **Coastal Management**

Storm water managers resource center

<http://www.stormwatercenter.net/>

Would you prefer to receive this newsletter by email?

In an effort to reduce paper usage and postage costs, the SWPU would like to send these newsletters electronically. If you would prefer to receive this newsletter by e-mail, please notify Deb Bailey at baileyd1@michigan.gov.

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